



# “THE LINC”

*Your connection to the news, decisions, and services from City Hall.*

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## City of Lincoln Holidays

City Hall will be closed over the course of the thirty days in observance of the following holidays:

### New Years Day

January 1

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 18

If you need to pay a sewer bill during that period, feel free to use our drop box locations on Kickapoo or McLean Streets.

City Hall Phone: (217) 735-2815

[www.lincolnil.gov](http://www.lincolnil.gov)

## CITY LAUNCHES NEW ‘RUMOR PAGE’

As a means to promote an accurate and positive discourse about the community, the City of Lincoln has created a “Rumors Page” on its website. The purpose of the page is to better inform residents about City policies, decisions, or other news. Announced at the November 16<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, the page launched Monday as another outreach initiative of the City to better engage the public along with this newsletter and a greater social media presence.

“It is extremely difficult to neatly explain many of the

problems that the City Council faces. We often have to deal with really big problems which means that the solutions are often very complex,” said Mayor Marty Neitzel. She continued, “We just want to make sure everyone has the facts before there is a rush to judgment.”

The page is not intended to be a forum for back-and-forth banter. When an issue gets mentioned in a public forum or brought up to aldermen or city staff with incorrect information, the Rumors Page will present the facts, offer an explanation to why a decision was made, and allow the reader to come to a conclusion on their own.

“I believe the City Council wants our residents to have an informed discussion about City topics,” said Alderman Todd Mourning. “A thoughtful debate with the correct information is only going to enhance the engagement of our citizenry and help us to grow our community.”

To access the City of Lincoln’s Rumors Page, start by going to [www.lincolnil.gov](http://www.lincolnil.gov) and find the “Services” tab. Using the drop down menu, click the title, “Rumors Page.”

## CITY ADOPTS NO PARKING ON SNOW ROUTES

Last year, the City Council adopted a Snow and Ice Control Plan to better organize how the City prepares and executes operations related to Snow removal.

Each year prior to the “snowfall season” the City evaluates its equipment and procedures, and staff then discusses ways to make snow and ice removal operations more effective and efficient. Moving into this season, the overwhelming recommendation was the difficulty of snow plows to

navigate narrow boulevards and streets with considerable on-street parking. Cars along narrow roadways make snow removal difficult as crews must swerve to miss parked vehicles which also leaves areas of the street untouched.

To address this problem, the Street Department has recommended the following streets be considered “No Parking” in snow events of more than two inches:

- **Lincoln Ave.** from College to N. Union;

- **Park Place** from N. Union to N. Elm;
- **North Side of Pulaski St.** between S. Ladue and S. Sherman;
- **Southgate** from N. Kickapoo to Bond;
- **Wyatt Ave.** from Railer Way to S. McLean.

Violators of the No Parking Zone may be fined \$75 per occurrence or be towed. For the full Snow and Ice Plan please go to [www.lincolnil.gov](http://www.lincolnil.gov) and view the Snow and Ice Control Plan via our homepage.

## NEW FIREARMS TAKE BACK PROGRAM

Every year the Lincoln Police Department responds to burglary reports where firearms have been stolen. Some of these firearms have ended up in the hands of gang members in Chicago, Champaign, and other larger cities and in some cases used in violent crimes.

Often when the firearms are stolen they are not locked up, in a cabinet with a glass window, or otherwise easily accessible. The Lincoln Police would like to urge our residents to please secure your firearms in a locked safe which is bolted or

otherwise secured permanently in your residence. You can still have easy access to your firearms in an emergency with biometric systems now for gun safes. Having a good safe gives the gun owner the peace of mind that their firearm will not be stolen and used in a violent crime.

Also, in an effort to reduce the number of firearms that could be used for unlawful purposes the Lincoln Police Department offers a new Firearm Take Back Program. If you have a firearm in your home that may be from a

family member or relative that passed away and you no longer want it in your home you can contact the Police Department and have an officer pick it up. These firearms will be used for departmental purposes, disassembled, or otherwise destroyed.

Please consider surrendering any firearms in your possession that you no longer need or want. Call [217-732-2151](tel:217-732-2151) to schedule a pickup. You will not be obligated to give your name. For further details see [www.lincoln.il.gov](http://www.lincoln.il.gov).

*If you have a firearm  
in your home and  
want it disposed  
safely and properly  
call the Lincoln  
Police Department  
at 217-732-2151.*

## CITY OF LINCOLN PROFILE

Over the course of the next editions of "The Linc," we will profile city staff so that you can better know the people serving you and your community.

**Name:** Walt Landers

**Position:** Street Department Superintendent

**Tenure with the City of Lincoln:** 2 years

**Family Life:** Wife, Julie; Children, Carman & Zach

**What do you do?**

I oversee a crew of seven full-time employees working to keep the streets of Lincoln clean and safe. Tasks range from getting debris out of streets, to clearing parkways of trees, to snow removal, to replacing sidewalks, to painting curbs and pavement markings.

**What's your favorite part of the job?**

Working at the Street Department gives the staff and I the opportunity to help people when we can. I find that rewarding.

**What do you do in your spare time?**

I love spending time with my wife Julie and children—Zach, Carman and son-in-law, Tark. I love taking our chocolate lab Josie to the pond so she can run and swim. I also coach youth and junior high school wrestling and love to hunt deer with bow and arrow.

**How can people get in touch with you?**

My office line is (217) 732-4655. You can also email me at [wlanders@lincoln.il.gov](mailto:wlanders@lincoln.il.gov).



**Mayor Marty's Office  
Hours at City Hall:**

**Tuesdays: 2-4PM  
Thursdays: 2-4PM**

Have a question of the new mayor, or just want to stop by and say, "Hello!"? Mayor Marty Neitzel has established office hours from 2-4PM every Tuesday and Thursday where she is available for walk-ins or appointments. You're welcome to stop by!